

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 PM-05 SS-15 HA-05
/072 W

-----019496 310853Z /23

O R 310822Z MAY 78
FM AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI
TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2447
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUBUMBASHI 0616

E.O. 11652 GDS
TAGSC MOPS, PINS, CG
SUBJECT: SHABA DEVELOPMENTS: MAY 31

1. MILITARY SITUATION: NO CHANGE IN THE DEPLOYMENT OF FRENCH
OR BELGIAN TROOPS. FRENCH GENERAL LIRION ARRIVED IN LUBUMBASHI
ON MAY 30 TO REVIEW THE SITUATION. THE LEADERS OF THE
LOCAL EXPATRIATE COMMUNITY APPEALED TO HIM TO KEEP THE
FRENCH TROOPS IN ZAIRE AS LONG AS POSSIBLE. THE FIRST
CONTINGENT OF ABOUT 30 MOROCCANS TROOPS ALSO ARRIVED IN LUBUMBASHI
ON MAY 30.

2. KOLWEZI: LOOTING CONTINUES AS THE PRIMARY ACTIVITY OF
FAZ IN KOLWEZI, DIMINISHED ONLY BY THE SUCCESSIVELY SMALLER
QUANTITY OF GOODS AVAILABLE EACH DAY. ZAIRIAN RESIDENTS OF
KOLWEZI HAVE COMPLAINED THAT THEY CANNOT GO TO THEIR JOBS
AT THE FEW FUNCTIONING COMPANIES SUCH AS THE RAILROAD
BECAUSE THEIR HOMES ARE ROBBED DURING THEIR ABSENCE. A
DELEGATION FROM GECAMIES MET WITH GENERA SINGA ON MAY
30 TO SAY THAT THEY COULD NOT BEGIN TO RESTORE THEIR
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OPERATIONS IN KOLWEZI UNTIL HE REESTABLISHED A MEASURE
OF DISCIPLINE AMONG FAZ. THE DIRECTOR OF BANQUE COMMER-
CIAL ZAIRIOISE(BCZ) NOTED THAT CONTRARY TO REPORTS THE
FLNC DID NOT EVEN ATTEMPT TO EMPTY THE CASH BOXES AT
THE BANKS. HE SAID THAT BCZ HAD ALREADY OPENINED THE
DOORS OF ITS KOLWEZI BRANCH AS ITS PART IN RESTORING NORMALCY
AND TO GIVE THE STAFF SOMETHING TO DO. ALTHOUGH

HE ADMITTED THERE WERE NO PROSPECTS FOR ANY BUSINESS.

3. OTHER SHABAN TOWNS; SITUATION REMAINS QUIET. ALTHOUGH
FEAR OF WHAT LIES AHEAD WHEN FOREIGN TROOPS LEAVE IS
PREVAILING FEELING. THE FRENCH CONSULATE HAS TOLD ITS
EMBASSY THAT IF THE TROOP TROOPS LEAVE THE FRENCH
COMMUNITY WILL FOLLOW ALMOST IMMEDIATELY.

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